

**Report on Panels Group for 2010 AGM**  
**by**  
**Anne Ruffell, DPAGB**

The Panels Group has gone from strength to strength over the past year. We have had 3 meetings since the last AGM with an average attendance of 25, and 34 people on the Panels Group mailing list. Our July and September 2009 meetings centred around planning for a presentation evening although we still saw other new work. The January meeting was cancelled because of the snow and at our March meeting we saw the panels prepared for the topic "Anything Goes". The sheer range of interpretation of themes shows just how much talent there is in the club.

On 3rd November 2009, Focus on Panels, a showcase of the group's work, was presented to the Society by 19 members. For some presenters, it was the first time they had even thought about putting a panel together, for others it was a chance to show work that would never be seen on competition evenings, and for others it was a challenge to put together a body of work and then talk about it to an audience. We produced a printed programme which showed all the contributors with a photograph of themselves, one from the panel and a short description of their photography. The evening was a great success and we all went away with a great feeling of achievement.

Most of the meetings have challenges and the one being worked on at present is "Quotation". You do not have to participate in the challenges to come to the meetings. One of the most important parts of the meeting is when we informally exchange views on each others new work. By popular demand, we are already planning a second Focus on Panels evening for Tuesday 2nd November 2010.

The Group encourages those who wish to undertake photographic projects such as the submission of work for Distinctions of the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain or Royal Photographic Society. Three members achieved Distinctions during the past year. We are not experts but we do provide a good bouncing board for opinions, constructive help and ideas.

We meet every two months at Littleton Millennium Hall and the next meeting is this Thursday, 20th May. The Panels Group is a non-competitive forum where you can explore your creative ideas, where there are no judges and rules and all members are welcome.

My thanks go to all the members who take part, for their help in setting up the meetings and the organisation of the presentation evening and particularly for their continuing enthusiasm.

**Anne Ruffell DPAGB**  
**Organiser**  
**Panels Group.**